

(Written for the Star.)  
The bell which pealed forth the news of the adoption by Congress of the Declaration of Independence bore this inscription: "Proclaim Liberty throughout the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."—Lev. xxv. 10.  
**A PLEA FOR THE BELL.**  
The pen of Schiller well hath told  
How fusing metals blend, and mould  
The cup of melody; whose rim,  
Revolving, pours a rhythmic tide  
Of mellow music far and wide,  
And subtle fancies woke for him.  
The birth—the death—the marriage hour—  
The conflagration's whirlwind power,  
Were pictured to his eye, his ear,  
As slowly, merrily it pealed,  
Or languid in alarm, revealed  
Life's shifting phases—joy, grief, fear.  
For us—"who breathe the boundless air  
So calmly, grandly unaware  
Of lot or hindrance, save from God!"—  
A bell in triumph rang, the day  
When vassalage was spurned away,  
And freedom our good country trod.  
Though shattered now and cold and lone,  
Holds not its metal yet the tone  
Which rang the requiem of our fears,  
And told us Liberty was born.  
For us and ours that July morn,  
Bells it not ring her hundred years?  
Then mould again the precious ore,  
With its fair legend as before,  
Sweet prophecy so well fulfilled!  
And may we feel as beating come  
Its pulse-like chiming through our great home,  
That even heaven's bright domes are thrilled.  
One summer hence our hearts will cling  
Around the bell, a reverend thing,  
Then lift it 'twixt the earth and sky,  
And let its every atom ring,  
And let its tongue still louder sing  
The anthem that shall never die,  
That Freedom hath eternal birth,  
That every land which rounds the earth  
Hath birth-right in her loom;  
That life without her hath no worth—  
That joy without is phantom mirth,  
And length of days a life-long rue.  
Oh, Bell of Liberty, ring on!  
Earth's parted knight-errant shall don  
Its armor at thy silver call.  
A franchised world, its shall be,  
Its shrine, "Our Lady of the Free,"  
Its keeper, God, the Lord of all.  
**RELIGIOUS ITEMS.**  
The Presbyterian Church, Greenfield, Wisconsin, has given a call to Rev. Andrew Luce.  
Mr. R. B. Nesbit has accepted a call from the United Presbyterian Church of Low Point, Illinois, in the Presbytery of Bloomington.  
A Reformed Episcopal Church has been organized in Newburg, N. Y. It is to bear the name of the "Church of the Corner-stone."  
A Christian chapel for the Chinese has been built in Virginia City, Nevada, by the labors of Ah For, a Chinese of the Moody type. His labors give promise of great good.  
The corner-stone of the Emanuel Reformed Protestant Episcopal Church, northwest corner of Selvira and York streets, Philadelphia, was laid on Thursday, 8th inst.  
There are six ordained Presbyterian ministers in Liberia, and a correspondent of the Presbyterian urges that six additional Presbyterian ministers are needed at once for the work.  
The delegates to the General Conference elected by the Southern Illinois Conference are: John W. Locke, Geo. W. Hughes, and Joseph E. B. R. Pierce and J. Vance, reserves.  
Rev. Edward Orledge, of Victoria, British Columbia, accepts the office of Missionary Bishop in the Reformed Episcopal Church, to which he was elected at the General Council in Chicago.  
On the last day of 1874 the printing of the Old Testament in the Mandarin dialect was completed, so that now the Chinese have the Scriptures entire, as the New Testament has been already published.  
The dedication of the chapel of the M. E. Church in Puebla, Mexico, took place on the 17th ultimo. All passed off quietly, although there had been serious threats. The Government furnished them ample protection.  
Rev. Mr. Spurgeon does not adopt the modern ideas of Christian perfection. He says that as soon as he attains perfection his friends will hear of it most probably by means of a notice under the head of "Deaths."  
The new minutes of the Illinois Congressional State Association give the number of churches, 239; members, 20,625; ministers, 237. The number added on profession is 1,374; by letter, 1,055; total, 2,429. The net gain is 1,055.  
It is said that four new Catholic universities are to be opened in France—one at Lille (where \$200,000 has been raised for the purpose), one at Angers, another at Paris, while the Jesuits intend to open a fourth at Poitiers.  
From the Northwest Indiana Methodist Conference the delegates are: Dr. J. L. Smith, Rev. C. A. Brooke, and Dr. Aaron Wood were elected delegates to the General Conference, and Drs. J. W. Joyce and Wm. Graham, reserves.  
There are 1,700,000 Baptists in the United States, and only 250,000 in England. Virginia alone has as many as Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts put together. The denomination is very popular with the negroes.  
Seven miles from Duluth, across the bay, in Wisconsin, is the pleasant village of Superior. The Presbyterian Church there is small, but greatly refreshed, and somewhat numerically strengthened by the temporary labors of Rev. Dr. Daniel Rice, formerly of Lafayette, Ind.  
The Methodist Episcopal Church in New Jersey has 63,000 communicants, 400 pastors, 400 local preachers, 500 churches valued at \$4,000,000, and 300 parsonages valued at \$335,000. There are 62,000 children in the Sunday-schools. During the year the sum of \$50,000 was raised for church purposes.  
The Sunday-school connected with the St. Paul M. E. Church, Cincinnati, gave \$100 missionary money for the year closing last month. The congregation gives \$2,000 more—making \$3,000 in one year to one of the general interests of the Church from a single charge. Some years St. Paul does better than this.  
The American Board finds itself running behind again financially, and appeals to every Congressional Church to make its donations this year as large as last year, to avoid embarrassment on the part of the Society. As matters now stand, the debt last reported (upwards of \$50,000) is likely to become much larger.  
The statistics of the Reformed (Ger-

man) Church shows 635 ministers, 1,350 churches, 145,000 members and 74,692 Sunday-school scholars, being an increase for the last six years at the rate of 24 per cent. in the ministry, 14 per cent. in the churches, 23 per cent. in the membership and 52 per cent. in the Sunday-school scholars.  
Bishop Cummins, it is understood, will ordain a missionary Bishop without delay, to take charge of the colored parishes in South Carolina that lately united with the Reformed Episcopal Church. They became dissatisfied with the Protestant Episcopal Church because it delayed the ordination of a Bishop over them, in accordance with their earnest request.  
The Churchman is of opinion that modern camp meetings, where religious exercises are mixed up very much with fishing, sailing and croquet, may be good for hotel-keepers and railroads, but in spiritual benefits will not compare with the old-fashioned methods of earnest appeal and warning to the ungodly that marked the exercises in the olden time.  
**SOME THOUGHTS ON COLD LEAD.**  
And Some on Lead Which is Not Cold—How Cincinnati Makes Three Thousand Miles of Lead Pipe Every Year.  
The manufacture of lead pipe and sheet lead, together with the different uses and qualities of this metal, is a subject that has elicited much discussion both in this country and Europe, especially in reference to its relation to the public health.  
A STAR reporter had occasion a few days ago to visit one of the most extensive lead pipe manufacturing in this city and see of the large machines for preparing sheet lead in operation.  
At one end of the machine is a large cupola capable of holding 30,000 pounds of metal, with an orifice situated at the bottom, from which the molten lead is allowed to flow into a large iron pan here the lead is partially cooled, when by means of an iron crane it is turned over, out of the pan, and on small pulleys which carry it between two solid steel rollers. The sheets of lead are generally passed through the machine from two to three hundred times. In order that the surface of the sheet may be without any depressions and perfectly smooth, pieces of lead are placed in any depressions that show and are forced into them by the rollers. Sheet lead prepared in this way weighs four pounds per square foot for one-sixteenth of an inch thickness.  
The next important branch of the uses of lead is for manufacturing pipe for water and gas supply.  
Lead pipe has been in use over 500 years in England and elsewhere, and during that time has had a longer practical test for water supply purposes than pipe made of any other metal, and has been found far superior. It combines the necessary requirements of strength, durability and pliability. By some it is maintained that water drawn through lead pipes is unhealthy, but this, from constant use, has been ascertained to be an unfounded assertion.  
Some years ago the English Parliament investigated this, and found that by far the healthiest water was drawn through pipes made of pure lead, and in another instance in a lake which obtained its supply from adjacent lead mines, the water was found from testing which might be detrimental to health. Lead pipes are of all sizes in diametrical dimensions—from 1/4 of an inch to 8 inches. The lightest is 1/4 of an inch, used for fountain or aqueduct purposes. It weighs 1 ounce per foot. The manufacture of lead pipe is a branch of business with which few persons, except those immediately interested, are familiar. It is formed by means of a hydrostatic press, which forces the melted metal into the required form. The melted lead is forced through steel circular dies of the required size, which makes the outside of the pipe.  
Through the center of the cylinder, and fastened to the piston passes a mandrel, which determines the diameter of the bore, making the inside of the pipe as smooth as the outside. As the piston is driven upward the lead is forced on the outside of this mandrel, through the annular dies, and comes out on the top of the press in the shape of a finished pipe, and is then rolled upon a drum in coils ready for sale. Lead pipe was formerly made by casting a short thick cylinder with the required bore and rolling this cylinder out over a mandrel. Tubes made in this way were limited to thirty feet in length, and both for this reason and the slowness of the process, subsequent inventions were substituted, and were found to be far superior.  
In this city during the past year over 3,000,000 pounds of lead pipe were manufactured, of which 1,000,000 pounds were used in this city alone.  
The largest manufacturing in this city, and which principally supplies this and adjoining States, makes on an average 7,000 feet of lead pipe in one day. It is employed over nine months in the year, and during that time manufactures more than 14,000,000 feet of lead pipe, which amounts to nearly three thousand miles in length. Besides this it makes 400,000 pounds of sheet lead per annum.  
The capacity of pipes for water supply will be seen by the following: The quantity of water that will flow through a pipe 600 feet long in twenty-four hours with a ten-foot fall, is 5.76 gallons for a 3/4 inch bore, 1,150 gallons for 1 1/2 inch bore, 2,049 gallons for 2 inch bore, 3,200 gallons for 3 inch bore, 6,224 for 4 inch bore, and 10,000 gallons for 6 inch bore.  
Egypt, so the correspondents tell us, is preparing for a brilliant show at our Centennial exhibition. Over two hundred persons will be sent over, and these will include representatives of every department of native life; there will be a band of genuine Bedouins from Arabia Petros; the representative animals of the country, including camels and dromedaries, will be exhibited; water from the Nile and the Red Sea will be brought over in tanks, and the primitive process of irrigation and cultivation will be explained and illustrated with native agricultural implements; the manufactures and antiquities of the country will be fully represented; learned scribes will exhibit the process of writing in Arabic on parchment; merchants and businessmen will exhibit the products of town and country, while the interior life will be illustrated in detail; soldiers in the uniform of the Turkish army; the Arabic band will perform the national music; and, what will be of more interest than all to the crowd, a troop of dancing girls will illustrate the recreation and delicacies of the harem. A marvelous show it will indeed be.—Boston Globe.  
Turner's great painting of the "Grand Canal" with a bridge, him \$1,500, sold the other day for \$38,750. Art is a queer thing. An artist has to die to get the full value of his productions. It's a bad world, anyway.

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[204-1m]



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